

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /033 W
-----270241Z 126858 /62

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6696

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIETS RAISE ANTE FOR PAN AM MAY CHARTERS

REF: MOSCOW 5539

1. LOCAL PAN AM REP DRAHORAD TOLD EMBOFF THAT A MEETING TODAY MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SAMORUKHOV) HAD INFORMED HIM THAT IF AEROFLOT DOES NOT RECEIVE ONE EXTRA SECTION WEEKLY FROM MAY 1 - OCTOBER 31, THAT THE MINISTRY WILL NOT APPROVE THE PAN AM CHARTER PROGRAM FOR MAY. THE REASON, ACCORDING TO SAMORUKHOV, IS THAT SINCE JANUARY 1, 1977, AEROFLOT HAS INCURRED A "SERIOUS IMBALANCE" IN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED IN AND OUT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON BOTH THE SCHEDULED SERVICES AND CHARTERS. AEROFLOT HAS CARRIED 4,400 AND PAN AM 9,100. THE MINISTRY, SAID SAMORUKHOV, WILL NOT "SIT IDLY" AND SEE THIS IMBALANCE GROW WORSE. HE SAID FURTHER IT IS HIS UNDERSTANDING USG PERMISSION IS NOT NEEDED FOR GRANTING EXTRA SECTIONS FOR AEROFLOT. ONLY PAN AM'S ASSENT IS REQUIRED. SAMORUKHOV THEN REJECTED DRAHORAD'S REJOINDER AGAINST COMBINING THE FIGURES FOR PASSENGERS CARRIED ON CHARTERS AND SCHEDULED SERVICES IN ONE CALCULATION.

2. DRAHORAD TOLD EMBOFF HE THINKS THE SOVIET FIGURES ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ESSENTIALLY CORRECT. HE SAID HE WOULD REPORT THE LATEST DEMANDS TO PAN AM NEW YORK, WHICH HAS STILL NOT RESPONDED TO THE APRIL 22 SOVIET REQUEST, MADE IN THE CONTEXT OF A DISCUSSION ON CHARTERS, THAT "AT LEAST" 11 EXTRA SECTIONS BE APPROVED FOR AEROFLOT THIS SUMMER SEASON, REFTEL. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, DRAHORAD SAID HE STRONGLY HOPED PAN AM WOULD REFUSE THE LATEST DEMAND AND RESPOND SOMETHING ALONG

THE LINES THAT EACH SOVIET REQUEST FOR AN EXTRA SECTION WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED ON ITS OWN MERITS. SO FAR, HE HAS SAID NOTHING ABOUT THE CURRENT PROBLEMS TO THE US PRESS CORPS HERE, DESPITE MANY INQUIRIES, BUT HE WILL DO SO IF THE MAY CHARTER PROGRAM IS REJECTED.

3. COMMENT: THE LATEST SOVIET DEMAND IN EFFECT IS FOR 3 WEEKLY FREQUENCIES THIS SUMMER. ACTION REQUESTED: CAN DEPARTMENT INFORM WHETHER USG APPROVAL IS IN FACT NEEDED (AS WE ASSUME) FOR APPROVING EXTRA SECTIONS FOR AEROFLOT? TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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